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Meredith E. Brown - 142134 Guy A. Bryant -146190

The Law Office of Bryant & Brown

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Attorney for Defendant OAKLAND PORT SERVICES CORP. d/b/a AB TRUCKING, a California Corporation,

ALAMEDA COUNTY

MAY 31 2013

GLEAR UP THE OUPSMUN JUUNT

# SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

#### FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

LAVON GODFREY and GARY GILBERT, on behalf of themselves and all other similarly) 12 situated,

Plaintiffs,

VS.

OAKLAND PORT SERVICES CORP. d/b/a AB TRUCKING, and DOES 1-20

Defendant.

Case No.: RG 08-379099

REPLY MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO BE RELIEVED AS COUNSEL; CCP § 284.

Action Filed: March 28, 2008 Hearing Date: June 7, 2013

Dept.: 20 Time: 10:00 a.m.

Trial Date: February 14, 2012

Before Honorable Judge Robert B. Freedman

Reservation Number: R-1395638

Plaintiffs Opposition to Attorney Guy A. Bryant's ("Defense Counsel") Motion to Bel Relieved as Counsel of record for Defendant OAKLAND PORT SERVICES CORP. d/b/a AB TRUCKING, a California Corporation, (collectively hereinafter referred to as "AB Trucking" or

"Defendant") in the above-entitled action ("Motion") provides no legal basis to deny the Motion.

REPLY MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO BE RELIEVED AS COUNSEL Page 1 of 3

Based on the foregoing, Defense Counsel relies on its initial moving papers and the arguments below to support the Motion to be relieved as counsel of record at this time.

As a preliminary matter, Defense Counsel has efficiently moved the case along since substituting into the case. The matter was tried in February 2012 and Defense Counsel brought important issues to the attention of the Court that streamlined the case significantly and resulted in the elimination of two substantial claims. Moreover, Defense Counsel acted responsibly when it challenged the NOID and Proposed Statement of Decision. Defense Counsel is not responsible for any prejudicial delay in this matter.

In addition, Plaintiffs are not prejudiced by any substitution of counsel at this juncture. The trial has concluded and the Court entered Judgment on this matter on May 21, 2013. AB Trucking has a right to appeal the Judgment and can request a stay of any enforcement of the Judgment by posting a bond. This is the kind of activity that is much more likely to delay the class administrative process than any substitution of counsel.

## Reasonable Assurance of Substitution Of Counsel

On May 17, 2013, Mr. Aboudi provided Defense Counsel with a written assurance that he had confirmed the retention of Ronald C. Chauvel (Chauvel & Glatt, LLP) to take over AB Trucking's legal representation through appeal if necessary once Mr. Chauvel returned from his vacation in mid June 2013. Defense counsel will bring the redacted written correspondence referenced above received from Mr. Aboudi to the June 7, 2013 hearing.

### **Settlement Possibility**

AB Trucking is still actively pursuing efforts to package a settlement that would be acceptable to Plaintiffs. It is anticipated that the U.S. Supreme Court will not fully resolve the FAAAA preemption defense with regard to California wage & hour laws this summer. It is also

anticipated that the Ninth Circuit will not definitively weigh in on the FAAAA preemption doctrine until the end of the year. Thus, AB Trucking acknowledges that pursuing settlement is a prudent business decision that may benefit both the class and the company.

#### Conclusion

Based on the foregoing, Defense Counsel respectfully requests that the Court grant its motion to be relieved as counsel of record. Additionally, Defense Counsel requests the Court to follow California Rules of Court, Rule 8.104(3) with regard to the filing of any Notice of Appeal. Given the unique circumstances presented in this case, the pending substitution of counsel and possibility of settlement, the Court's own motion in this regard is required.

Dated this 31st day of May, 2013.

Respectfully Submitted,

Guy Å. Bryant Bryant & Brown

Attorney for Defendant

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3	Oakland, CA 94607	
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8	SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA	
9	FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA	
10		$C_{\text{aga}} N_{\text{aga}} \cdot DC_{\text{aga}} 00.270000$
11	LAVON GODFREY and GARY GILBERT,	Case No.: RG 08-379099
12	on behalf of themselves and all other similarly ) situated,	PROOF OF SERVICE
13	Plaintiffs,	Action Filed: March 28, 2008  Date: May 3, 2013
14	vs.	Dept.: 20 for Trial: February 14, 2012 Before Honorable Judge Robert B. Freedman
15	OAKLAND PORT SERVICES CORP. d/b/a	Hearing Date: June 7, 2013
16	AB TRUCKING, and DOES 1-20	R-1395638
17	Defendant.	
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19	)	
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22	PROOF OF SERVICE	
23	I am employed in the County of Alameda, State of California. I am over the age of 18 and not a party to the within action. My business address is 476 Third Street, Oakland California, 94607.	
_		
25	On May 31, 2013, I served the foregoing documents described as:	
1	1	

1	REPLY MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO BE RELIEVED AS COUNSEL; CCP § 284.		
2	on the interested parties in this action by placing a true copy thereof enclosed in a sealed envelope addressed as follows:		
3	SEE MAILING LIST INCLUDED HEREIN		
4			
5	(BY MAIL) I am readily familiar with the firm's practice of collection and processing correspondence for mailing. Under that practice it would be		
6	deposited with U.S. postal service on that same day with postage thereon fully prepaid at Oakland, California in the ordinary course of business.		
8	(BY FACSIMILE/E-MAIL) by faxing or e-mailing a true and correct copy thereof to		
9	the person(s) at the fax number or e-mail address set forth below.		
10	(BY FEDERAL EXPRESS) by using express mail service and causing to be delivered overnight next day delivery a true copy thereof to the person(s) at the address set forth above.		
13	X (BY PERSONAL SERVICE) I caused such envelope to be delivered by hand to the offices of the addressee.		
15 16	(FEDERAL) I declare that I am employed in the office of a member of the bar of this court at whose direction the service was made.		
17	(STATE) I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the above is true and correct.		
20	GUY A. BRYANT Signature		
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#### **SERVICE LIST**

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## VIA PERSONAL SERVICE ON ALL PARTIES LISTED HEREIN:

Attorney for: LAVON GODFREY and GARY GILBERT, ET AL.

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Lisl R. Duncan
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A Professional Corporation
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Lisl Duncan [lduncan@unioncounsel.net]

#### **DEFENDANT REPRESENTATIVE**

Mr. William Aboudi AB Trucking/Oakland Port Services Corp. 11 Burma Road Oakland, CA 94607

PROOF OF SERVICE
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